UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

R. ALEXANDER ACOSTA,)
Secretary of Labor,	
United States Department of Labor,)
)
Plaintiff,)
) Civil action no.: 1:17-cv-00644-GJQ-PJG
V.)
) Judge Gordon J. Quist
FREMONT HEALTHCARE, LLC)
d/b/a TRANSITIONAL HEALTH	
SERVICES OF FREMONT)
)
Defendant.)
)

CONSENT JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, R. ALEXANDER ACOSTA, Secretary of Labor ("Plaintiff"), United States

Department of Labor, having filed the complaint in this matter, and Defendant FREMONT

HEALTHCARE, LLC, d/b/a TRANSITIONAL HEALTH SERVICES OF FREMONT

("Fremont"), hereby appearing by counsel, acknowledging receipt of the copy of the complaint herein and waiving service thereof, and having been duly advised of the premises, agree to the entry of this judgment without contest.

NOW, therefore upon motion of attorney for Plaintiff and Defendant, and for cause shown,

JUDGMENT IS HEREBY ENTERED against Defendant pursuant to sections 105 and 107 of the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29 U.S.C. § 2601 *et seq.*, ("the Act" or "FMLA").

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED, pursuant to section 107(d) of the Act, that the Defendant, its officers, agents, servants, employees, and all persons in active concert or participation with Defendant be, and hereby is, permanently enjoined and restrained from violating the provisions of the Act in any of the following manners:

- (a) Defendant shall not, contrary to section 105(a)(1) of the Act, interfere with, restrain, or deny employees their FMLA entitlements by:
- (i) failing to inform employees that their conditions potentially qualify for FMLA leave when Defendant has knowledge that an employee's leave may be for an FMLA-qualifying reason;
- (ii) failing to timely provide FMLA notices to employees, including, but not limited to, rights and responsibilities notices, eligibility notices, and designation notices;
- (iii) assessing attendance points and/or discipline to employees for exceeding absence limits due to Defendant's failure to inform employees that their leave may be FMLA-qualifying; and
- (iv) requiring employees to cover their shifts when it is known that the employee's leave may be for an FMLA-qualifying reason.

II

In order to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Consent Judgment and with the Act, Defendant shall take the following actions:

a) Within six months after entry of this Consent Judgment, Defendant shall provide training to Defendant's head floor nurses and human resources administrators and to any other employees of Defendant who assist with Defendant's administration of FMLA leave. For

a period of three years thereafter, refresher FMLA training will be required once per year for the above staff and all new staff members hired into these positions.

- i. The training will encompass the following topics:
 - qualifying reasons for FMLA leave, including what constitutes a serious health condition under the FMLA;
 - how to recognize and properly respond to information from employees that indicates a potential need for FMLA leave;
 - how and when to provide FMLA notices, including, but not limited to, rights and responsibilities notices, eligibility notices, and designation notices.
- ii. The training will be provided by a regional human resources representative from Consulate Health Care who is able to provide expert training on the FMLA provisions found at 29 C.F.R. Part 825.
- iii. Defendant will maintain a training log and will require employees who receive the training referenced herein above to sign and date the training log. A copy will be kept for a period of three years from the date of each training.
- Wage Hour Division FMLA Fact Sheets ("FS") shall be given to each current and future employee of Defendant: FS 28 (General FMLA); FS 28F (Reasons for FMLA leave); and Fact Sheet 28E (Employee Notice Requirements). An acknowledgement of receipt of these fact sheets must be signed by the employee and his/her supervisor and placed in the employee's personnel file for a period of two years and made available for review by Wage Hour personnel as requested. The same procedure shall be used for all new hires within two weeks of the start of their employment. These fact sheets are publicly available at the following web address: https://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/fact_sheets.htm.

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FURTHER, it is agreed by the parties herein and hereby **ORDERED** that each party bear its own fees and other expenses incurred by such party in connection with any stage of this proceeding to date and shall waive all rights to relief in this case under the Equal Access to Justice Act of 1980, as amended (28 U.S.C. § 2412 et seq.).

SO ORDERED.

DATED this 6th	day of <u>September</u> 2017.	
	/s/ Gordon J. Quist	
	Gordon J. Quist	
	United States District Judge	

The parties hereby agree to the entry of this judgment.

FREMONT HEALTHCARE, LLC d/b/a TRANSITIONAL HEALTH SERVICES OF FREMONT

NICHOLAS C. GEALE Acting Solicitor of Labor

CHRISTINE Z. HERI Regional Solicitor

/s/ Audrey J. Forbush **AUDREY J. FORBUSH**

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